

Taken from The Newsletter of The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting, Winter 1995 Edition. Also, please visit [zanerian.com](http://www.zanerian.com) to view a specimen of her work at:

<http://www.zanerian.com/ERichardson.html>

Eileen (Broad) Richardson
(19??-1995)

We are saddened by the passing of one of IAMPETH's founders, Eileen Richardson, of Ottawa Canada.

Eileen was a past president and published The Penman's Newsletter for over twenty years.

In her newsletter, she seldom wrote about her own attributes, choosing instead to promote other penmen and various writing and lettering styles including Ornamental, Roundhand, Engrossing, Illuminating, Questioned Document Examination as well as her specialty of Business Penmanship.

As a schoolteacher (teaching English, French and Latin) she took penmanship classes under the tutelage of J.J. Bailey, of Canada, and discovered her love of penmanship. Eileen finished the course in one summer, whereas it usually took two summers to get a penmanship degree. Afterward, she attended the Zanerian College of Penmanship in Columbus, Ohio, under the guidance of E.A. Lupfer. She was enthusiastic about penmanship once she learned its secrets, and wrote for hours without getting tired.

In Toronto and Ottawa Eileen taught hundreds of students modern business writing, stressing that proper business writing is done with a full arm movement. She would explain to the students "Pretend your arm is in a cast and the only way to move it is from your shoulder." After learning the arm movement, Eileen said it was no trouble to learn other writing styles such as Roundhand and Ornamental. In addition to teaching, she had served on the Board of Education in Ottawa championing the cause of improving the handwriting of young students. Her green alphabet charts appeared in the Ottawa schools from grades I through 8, and are still being used as the model for good letterforms in the school system. She had always felt that good handwriting would improve a student's performance in other subjects such as reading and spelling.

In 1945 she married Fred Richardson, who was also a teacher of penmanship. He too studied under the guidance of J.J. Bailey and attended the Zanerian College of Penmanship. Four years later, while building a cottage on an island in Lake Nipissing, they had the idea of getting some penmen together to renew acquaintances and share ideas on penmanship. The following year a group of master penmen met at Lake Nipissing, Ontario, Canada and formed a group called The International Association of Master Penmen and Teachers of Handwriting. Those present with the Richardsons were their mentor, J.J. Bailey, H.J. Walter of Chicago, Charles Begin of Quebec City, Rene Guillard of Evanston, Illinois and Enrique Benguria of Cuba. This group's main interest was to find a way to restore penmanship in schools and improve the handwriting of young people. The organization has met every year since that time on Lake Nipissing, attracting both young and old, who share the love of penmanship.

In 1973, the name of the group was changed to reflect the contributions of engrossers and remains as we know it today: The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting.

Eileen Richardson has done much to keep the traditions of penmanship alive and has brought many lovers of the art together. The members of IAMPETH have forged lasting friendships we will treasure forever, and owe a great debt of gratitude to our founders for bringing us together.